



THOMAS J. VILSACK, GOVERNOR
SALLY J. PEDERSON, LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF IOWA

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
TED STILWILL, DIRECTOR

DATE: March 4, 2002

TO: Superintendents
Nonpublic School Administrators
AEA Administrators
College and University Contact Persons

FROM: Judy Jeffrey, Administrator
Division of Early Childhood, Elementary and Secondary Education

SUBJECT: 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 Designated Teacher Shortage Areas

The Iowa Department of Education has designated "teacher shortage areas" for Iowa. The teacher shortage areas designated for the 2001-2002 and 2002-2003 academic years are listed below. In addition, they have been posted on the Department's Web site: www.state.ia.us/educate.

Statewide shortage areas by discipline:

Regular Education:

- K-12 English as a Second Language
- K-12 Talented & Gifted
- K-6 & 7-12 Music
- 7-12 Agriculture
- 7-12 Family & Consumer Science
- 7-12 Foreign Language
- 7-12 Industrial Technology
- 7-12 Mathematics
- 7-12 Science (all)

Special Education:

- K-6 & 7-12 Multicategorical Resource
- K-6 & 7-12 Behavior Disorders
- K-6 & 7-12 Multicategorical Special Class With Integration
- PK-K Early Childhood Special Education
- K-6 & 7-12 Mental Disabilities
- K-12 Moderate/Severe/Profoundly Handicapped
- K-6 & 7-12 Learning Disabilities
- K-6 Physically Handicapped
- PK-K, K-6, 7-12, & Itinerant Hearing Impaired
- PK-K, K-6, 7-12, & Itinerant Visually Impaired

If an educator obtained a Stafford Student Loan and/or Supplemental Loan for Students (SLS) while becoming licensed to teach and is employed full-time in a designated teacher shortage discipline, he/she may be eligible for up to three years of deferment. Deferment postpones repayment -- it does not cancel Stafford Student Loan obligations. To receive this deferment, the educator must:

- ◆ Have borrowed for the first time between July 1, 1987 and June 30, 1993.
- ◆ Be employed full-time in a designated teacher shortage area.
- ◆ Complete a deferment form. Deferment forms are available through lending institutions. This includes having the licensure portion completed by the appropriate school official and returning the completed form to the appropriate lending institutions.
- ◆ Reapply each year, as a single deferment form is only valid for one year.

Currently, there are no Stafford Loan cancellation benefits available to educators who borrowed prior to October 1, 1998. Federal Cancellation benefits may be available to new student loan borrowers (first loan after October 1, 1998). Visit www.ed.gov/offices/OSFAP/Students/repayment/teachers for more information about federal cancellation and deferment opportunities available to educators.

Please refer federal Stafford/SLS borrowers who have general questions concerning deferment or cancellation benefits to a Client Services Representative at the Iowa College Student Aid Commission at csac@max.state.ia.us or (515) 242-3344.

JJ/jlc

cc: Paul Cahill, Bureau of Administration and School Improvement Services
Janice Friedel, Division of Community Colleges and Workforce Preparation
Anne Kruse, Board of Educational Examiners
Brenda Easter, Iowa College Student Aid Commission
Gary Nichols, Iowa College Student Aid Commission
Lana Michelson, Bureau of Children, Family and Community Services